

**Notice of Allowance Mailed: June 6, 2006**  
**Confirmation No. 5127**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: M.L. LAMB et al. Examiner: Qing Yuan Wu  
Serial No.: 09/972,386 Group Art Unit: 2194  
Filed: October 5, 2001 Docket No.: SJO920010037US1  
TITLE: STORAGE AREA NETWORK METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR  
STORAGE DEVICE MASKING

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted through the USPTO EFS-Web system over the Internet to to  
Qing Yuan Wu the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 30, 2006

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Janaki K. Davda/  
Janaki K. Davda

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

In the statement of reasons for allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated June 6, 2006, the Examiner provided various reasons for allowance. Applicants will not specifically address or respond herein to the issues/points raised by the Examiner in the Examiner's provided remarks. However, this should not necessarily be viewed as constituting acquiescence by Applicants as to the correctness of some or all of the Examiner's provided remarks.

Moreover, Applicants note that the claims are directed to various combinations of features. It is respectfully submitted that the patentability of each of the allowed and allowable claims resides in every feature of the recited combination of features of the claims in addition to any features noted by the Examiner.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

Dated: June 30, 2006 By: /Janaki K. Davda/

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